

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- 5 1. An order delivery mechanism for use with a trading system operative to receive an electronic order request and to dispatch that request to a trader located in a market in which the request can be actioned.
2. An order delivery mechanism according to claim 1 in which apparatus local to the trader is operative to print a paper order that provides the trader with instructions required to make a trade.
- 10 3. An order delivery mechanism according to claim 1 further comprising computing a device having a display upon which instructions required to make a trade can be presented to a trader.
4. An order delivery mechanism according to claim 3 in which the device is a handheld computing device that the trader can carry into the trading pit.
- 15 5. An order delivery mechanism according to claim 4 in which the handheld device can exchange data with a server by way of a wireless link.
6. An order delivery mechanism system according to claim 5 in which the wireless link makes use of one or more of wireless LAN technology, *ad-hoc* communication technology or wireless telephony.
- 20 7. An order delivery mechanism according to claim 1 implemented as a client/server system.
8. An order delivery mechanism according to claim 7 each server may be in communication with one or more clients.
- 25 9. An order delivery mechanism according to claim 7 in which the server emulates an exchange-specific adapter to which an electronic trading system can connect.

10. An order delivery mechanism according to claim 7 in which a client includes apparatus that can present information to and receive information from a market floor trader.
- 5 11. An order delivery mechanism according to claim 7 in which a client includes a software program executing on a handheld computing device.
12. An order delivery mechanism according to claim 7 in which the server operates to send one trading requests to a plurality of clients.
- 10 13. An order delivery mechanism according to claim 12 in which the plurality of clients to which the request will be sent are members of a hunt group of traders that can potentially action the request.
14. An order delivery mechanism according to claim 12 in which a client does not process the request until it has obtained an exclusive lock on the request.
- 15 15. An order delivery mechanism to claim 13 in which the exclusive lock is requested by a client and allocated by the server to the client associated with the first such request that it receives.
16. An order delivery mechanism according to claim 13 in which the exclusive lock is timed out if the request is not completed within a predetermined period of time.